

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 12, and 15 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer system, a method of signaling that an event has occurred, comprising the steps of:

a) an application program of said computer system making a call to request a display attribute for an event object to be displayed on a display screen, said call including an event type corresponding to said event object;

b) in response to said request, indexing a table with said event type and a screen capability flag to obtain said display attribute, wherein said table is located externally of said application program and has an event type list having a plurality of event types that are different from one another and a plurality of display attribute lists, each of said display attribute lists having a display attribute corresponding to each of said plurality of event types in the event type list, and each of the display attribute lists corresponding to a different potential display capability; and,

c) said application program displaying said event object on said display screen with said display attribute, wherein a user of said computer system is signaled that an event has occurred.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

setting at least one display attribute in said table such that said display attribute conveys a particular meaning to the user of the computer system.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein said at least one display attribute is a color.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein said meaning to the user is warning.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the meaning to the user is caution.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the meaning to the user is status is good.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of said application program changing at least one of said display attributes.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of a user of said computer system changing at least one of said display attributes.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said table resides in an operating system of said computer system.
10. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
accessing said screen capability flag from an operating system.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer system.
12. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:  
a processor coupled to a bus;  
a display screen coupled to said bus;  
a memory unit coupled to said bus and comprising instructions that when executed by said processor implement a method of signaling that an event has occurred, comprising the steps of:

a) an application program of said computer system making a call to request a display attribute for an event object to be displayed on a display screen, said call including an event type corresponding to said event object;

b) in response to said request, indexing a table with said event type and a screen capability flag to obtain said display attribute, wherein said table is located externally of said application program and has an event type list having a plurality of event types and a plurality of display attribute lists, each of said display attribute lists having a display attribute corresponding to each of said plurality of event types in the event type list, and each of the display attribute lists corresponding to a different potential display capability of the display screen; and,

c) said application program displaying said event object on said display screen with said display attribute, wherein a user of said computer system is signaled that an event has occurred.

13. (Original) A computer system as described in Claim 12 wherein said computer system is a portable computer system.

14. (Original) A computer system as described in Claim 12 wherein said computer system is a palm-sized computer system.

15. (Currently Amended) In a palm-top computer system, a method of displaying information, comprising the steps of:

a) an application program of said computer system making a call to request a display attribute for an event object to be displayed on a display screen, said call including an event type corresponding to said event object;

b) in response to said request, indexing a table with said event type and a screen capability flag to obtain said display attribute, wherein said table is located

externally of said application program and has an event type list having a plurality of event types that are different from one another and a plurality of display attribute lists, each of said display attribute lists having a display attribute corresponding to each of said plurality of event types in the event type list; and,

c) said application program displaying said event object on said display screen with said display attribute, wherein a user of said computer system is signaled that an event has occurred.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of:

setting at least one display attribute in said table such that said display attribute conveys a particular meaning to the user of the computer system.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 16 wherein said display attribute is a color.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein step a) comprises the step of:

a1) an event external to said palm-top computer system triggering said call by said application program to request said display attribute for said event object.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein:

said event external to said palm-top computer system is a stock price reaching a pre-defined price.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein:

said event external to said palm-top computer system is the computer entering a certain geographic location.